

Appendix1:

Results from a survey circulated via email to Companion (+1) pass Holders

A survey was sent, via email, to those passholders for whom we hold an email address. (76 email addresses out of 150 passholders) at the end of October 2024.

Thirty six responses were received, as follows.

| Do you currently have a Warwickshire bus pass? | |
|---|----|
| Yes - I have a disabled person's pass | 19 |
| No - but I am a carer for someone with a disabled person's pass and answering on their behalf | 9 |
| Yes - I have an older person's pass | 6 |
| No - but I am a carer for someone with an older person's pass and answering on their behalf | 2 |

| How did you find out about the Companion (+1) add on? | |
|--|----|
| I was told by a member of WCC staff; | 11 |
| I was told by another passholder; | 6 |
| I found the information on the WCC website; | 6 |
| I saw the press release; | 3 |
| Told at the library ; | 1 |
| I was told by my rehabilitation instructor and members of Vision Support Centre. | 1 |
| Warwickshire vision support; | 1 |
| Can't remember!; | 1 |
| Through Warwickshire Vision Support ; | 1 |
| Article from Warwickshire Vision magazine ; | 1 |
| Warwickshire Vision ; | 1 |
| can't remember; | 1 |
| Didn't know about it; | 1 |
| Day centre ; | 1 |

| ID | We would like to find out what you think of the scheme - please tell us here if you have any comments. |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | I think the scheme was good. |
| 2 | It is very helpful to be able to use the bus for a worry free travel to appointments or day out |
| 3 | It's a great scheme. It help me to travel around with my carer |
| 4 | Now that I know of this +1 bus pass I think it's such a great idea and it's a heaven send to me as I've been struggling with worsening vision and it's been allowing my wife and I to go into town more and it's eased the burden of paying for her as I do feel now I'd struggle going by myself or I would simply just stay at home. |

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|----|--|
| 5 | I am left with the weekly minimum income guarantee after Warwickshire County Council deducts care contributions from my benefits. Without Companion (+1) pass I have to pay for my support worker to travel with me as I must have a support worker with me) out of my weekly MIG, leaving me with less than the MIG to live on, even though I am severely disabled. |
| 6 | It has made his life a lot easier as he can travel with his career |
| 7 | I find it very helpful |
| 8 | As a carer is always needed to support the holder of this disabled bus pass, it has enabled more travel to be possible as there is no additional cost for the accompanying carer. It would most beneficial to continue with this scheme. |
| 9 | The scheme is a great idea. My Husband has young onset Alzheimers so is now unable to drive, but the pass has given him a little independence back. Although he's no longer able to travel alone, due to losing his bearings, he still has a little bit of freedom to get out and about |
| 10 | Think it is really good |
| 11 | It is brilliant and has made it so much easier for me to escort my husband on the bus as he couldn't travel alone. |
| 12 | I think its a great scheme. My son has complex needs and has two - one care. This has been quite expensive for him in the past as he has had to pay for both of his companions. This restricts his ability to travel as often as he would like. Therefore the scheme has been very helpful |
| 13 | Brilliant - I am registered blind |
| 14 | If I couldn't take my carer I wouldn't be able to travel |
| 15 | It's very helpful |
| 16 | Great scheme and I hope it continues, Would be a disgrace if it was removed |
| 17 | I find the pass very useful as taking someone with me makes life very much more relaxing, especially when I am going somewhere for the first time. |
| 18 | It is vital as it enables me to get out and about with my carer, otherwise, I would not be able to go out on the bus |
| 19 | It is very reassuring to have +1 for travelling to areas I'm less familiar with. I very much hope this scheme will continue on after the end date. I would become more isolated if it were to discontinue |
| 20 | It proved to be very helpful the two times or so, that I needed to use it. |
| 22 | Very useful. |

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|----|---|
| 23 | It has enabled the person that is cared for to resume travelling on buses as the cost was too prohibitive before having this. It seems a bad idea for a person that requires a carer at all times to have to pay for that carer whilst travelling. |
| 24 | Very good and helpful |
| 25 | I'm answering on behalf of my wife, who has dementia. We live frugally, but she does have a carer a few days each week. The Companion Pass has enabled them to go on adventures that she enjoys very much, and that they probably would not have been able to do before the Pass was available. It has been a great help |
| 26 | It's a great scheme |
| 27 | I find it essential - I'm not able to travel on my own and one of my carers doesn't drive a car |
| 28 | I think it's a great idea and should be continued |
| 29 | It's a great idea. It helps visually impaired people keep their independence and social contact is hugely important. My mother is registered blind but this would have been hugely beneficial when she was still able to get out. |
| 31 | It is very useful when I need to be assisted by someone who doesn't have a bus pass of their own. |
| 32 | The +1 Companion pass it's extremely convenient especially for people like me with vision limitations problems, or others who need locomotorial support. In my case it was very useful as I can't always spot/read the timetable or the bus number, then once in the bus unless one of the new busses which speaks out next station I might get confused and miss the getting off stop. Now being on my 4th year of not having any income myself, indeed this pass would be extremely helpful but in my situation, so thank you in advance for considering an extension of it please. |
| 33 | Its good for me and when a carer or a friend who doesn't have a bus pass |
| 34 | Yes well it gets u to hospital appointments and doctors appointments earlier where I would have to have them later on it also means that other people that haven't got a pass and carers and helpers use it as well |
| 35 | Well its been a big help as i can get to the hospital and have earlier doctors appointments and my carer and other people who haven't got a bus pass can come with me |
| 36 | The companion bus pass is very helpful for me in and out with my companion especially I am not able to drive without sight and also greatly improve my social contact with the community. |